

L E T T E R  
FROM  
THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING,

*In reply to Senate resolution of February 8, 1889, report upon the relocation of Fort Omaha.*

FEBRUARY 18, 1889.—Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
*Washington City, February 15, 1889.*

SIR: In reply to the resolution of the Senate dated the 8th instant, calling for all the correspondence and reports pertaining to the relocation of Fort Omaha, Nebr., and for an expression of my opinion in regard to the matter, I have the honor to state that the act of Congress approved July 23, 1888, authorizes the purchase of not more than 640 acres of land situated within 10 miles of the city limits, at a price not to exceed \$66,666.67.

Generals Schofield, Crook, and Brooke recommend the purchase of 900 acres of land south of Omaha, a portion of which will cost \$225 per acre, and the total cost for the 900 acres would be about \$166,000. This ground is situated 10 miles from the Omaha post-office. It can only be supplied with water by the City Water Company, which proposes to furnish water at meter rates. The cost for water, judging from the charges made at Fort Omaha, might amount to \$8,000 per annum in addition to the cost of 5 miles of pipe, estimated at \$32,000. I do not recommend the purchase of this site, and in my opinion it will be better to purchase ground at a greater distance from Omaha, where land is not held at so high a price and where good water may be had in abundance without the payment of a large annual tax.

I inclose copies of the following papers, which will, it is believed, furnish all the information called for:

(1) Abstract of bids received in response to the advertisement under authority of the act approved July 23, 1888.

(2) Report of the major-general commanding the Army, dated the 11th instant.

(3) Report of the commanding general Department of the Platte.

(4) Tracing showing the land owned by Mr. H. T. Clarke, which is recommended by the department commander to be purchased.

(5) Abstract of offers received for the sale of land in the State of Iowa, all of the land covered thereby being reported by the commanding general Department of the Platte as not suitable for a military post,

(6) The recommendation of the commanding general Division of the Missouri.

Very respectfully,

WILLIAM C. ENDICOTT,  
Secretary of War.

The PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE.

GENERAL ORDERS, }

No. 60.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,  
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Washington, August 4, 1888.

The following act of Congress is published for the information and government of all concerned:

An act to provide for the sale of the site at Fort Omaha, Nebraska, the sale or removal of the improvements thereof, and for a new site and the construction of suitable buildings thereon.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of War is hereby authorized to sell the military reservation known as Fort Omaha, near the city of Omaha, in the State of Nebraska, and such of the buildings and improvements thereon as can not be economically removed to the new site herein provided for. In disposing of said property the Secretary of War shall cause the grounds to be platted in blocks, streets, and alleys, if in his judgment it would, inure to the benefit of the Government in making sale of said site, having the reference to the requirements of the houses and buildings located on said grounds, in such cases as they may be sold with the ground. The Secretary of War shall also cause the lots, lands, and buildings to be appraised and sold at public or private sale, at not less than the appraised value, having first been offered at public sale. The expense of advertising, appraisement, survey, and sale shall be paid out of the proceeds of said sale, and the balance paid into the Treasury of the United States.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of War is authorized and shall purchase suitable grounds of not less than three hundred and twenty nor more than six hundred and forty acres in extent, to be situate within a distance of ten miles of the limits of said city of Omaha, in the State of Nebraska, and construct thereon the necessary buildings, with appurtenances, sufficient for a ten-company military post, to be known as Fort Omaha, in accordance with estimates to be prepared by the War Department; and a sufficient sum of money, not exceeding two hundred thousand dollars, is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to enable the Secretary of War to comply with the provisions of this act: *Provided*, That the title to the lands authorized to be purchased under the second section of this act shall be approved by the Attorney-General: *And provided further*, That not more than one-third of said sum shall be expended in the purchase of a site; and the whole expenditure for site and improvement shall not exceed the sum of two hundred thousand dollars.

SEC. 3. That section one of this act shall be of effect when the purchase of a new site provided for in section two shall have been effected.

Approved, July 23, 1888.

By command of General Sheridan.

R. C. DRUM,  
Adjutant-General.

Official:

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Assistant Adjutant-General.

*Abstract of bids received for the sale of land for the site of Fort Omaha, Nebr., under the act of Congress approved July 23, 1888, opened at 2.30 p. m. September 17, 1888, by General R. Macfeely, Acting Secretary of War, in the presence of General S. B. Holabird, Quartermaster-General U. S. Army, and Mr. John Tweedale, Chief Clerk War Department.*

No. of bid.	Name of bidder.	Parcels of land marked.	Number of acres offered.	Price per acre.	Price for total No. of acres.
1	Thomas Swift.....		400		\$50,000.00
2	Jurgen Claussen.....		160	\$100.00	16,000.00
3	Hamilton Martin.....		450		
4	James E. Boyd.....		480		48,000.00
5	B. P. Knight.....		355 $\frac{1}{2}$	100.00	35,550.00
6	Barton & Nichols.....		545 $\frac{59}{100}$		54,569.00
7	Martin House, and Jacob Elton, and Julia E. and James E. Vandercook.....		480 $\frac{35}{100}$	120.00	57,642.00
8	John L., Campbell D., Clara E., and Malcolm P. Brown and Jennie A. Forsyth*.....	{	440	150.00	66,000.00
			320	150.00	48,000.00
			320	85.00	27,200.00
9	Lucien Woodworth.....		628 $\frac{48}{100}$	100.00	62,848.00
10	John H. Cryer.....			100.00	
11	Charles Abernethy, agent for Mrs. Gans.....				
12	Plattsmouth Land Improvement Company, by O. H. Ballou, president.....		323		40,000.00
13	W. W. Lowe.....		477 $\frac{23}{100}$	97.00	46,291.31
			557 $\frac{23}{100}$	95.00	52,936.85
14	Hans Beekman.....		432	100.00	43,200.00
	do.....		158	50.00	7,900.00
15	H. T. Clarke.....	A. M.		150.00	
		S.		100.00	
		W. E.		100.00	
		E.		120.00	
		Z.		175.00	
		H. Z.		225.00	
		P.		145.00	
		C.		145.00	
		B.		60.00	
		W.		95.00	
16	Portal Land and Town Lot Company, by John L. McCague, president.....		320		40,000.00
			480		56,000.00
			360		61,000.00
			360		66,000.00
17	George Bates.....		480	90.00	43,200.00
18	do.....		350		30,000.00
19	W. W. Lowe.....		640	98.50	
			480	107.00	
20	Henry Kelsey and Christian Kaelber.....		640	100.00	64,000.00
21	Rumsey Saling and C. V. Gallagher.....		440	132.50	
22	S. L. Coffman.....		200		20,000.00
	H. H. Condeman.....		252		40,000.00
23	J. Kelly McCombs.....		320	100.00	32,000.00
24	Fred Fricke.....		320		65,000.00
25	Joseph A. Connor.....		400		64,000.00
26	W. A. Paxton, jr.....		320	150.00	48,000.00
27	Potter & Cobb.....		450		65,000.00
28	Henry Zucher.....		350	185.00	64,750.00
31	Portal Land and Town Lot Company, by John L. McCague, president.....		320		40,000.00
			480		56,000.00
			360		61,000.00
			360		66,000.00
30	L. Crounse.....		400		55,000.00
29	Portal Land and Town Lot Company, by John L. McCague, president, transmitting bids Nos. 16 and 31.				

\* Will also sell all of their land north of Union Pacific Railroad, or that north of Papillion Creek.

† Duplicate of bid No. 16.

[First indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, October 13, 1888.

Respectfully referred to the major-general commanding the Army, for report and recommendation.

It is desired that all the sites offered that are within the 10-mile limit fixed by the act of July 23, 1888, be examined.

WILLIAM C. ENDICOTT,  
Secretary of War,

[Second indorsement.]

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,  
*Washington, October 15, 1888.*

It is the desire of the major-general commanding that all the papers be referred for report and recommendation by the division and department commanders; all the sites offered that are within the 10-miles limit as fixed by the law be examined.

THOMAS M. VINCENT,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

[Third indorsement.]

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*Washington, February 4, 1889.*

Respectfully returned to the major-general commanding the Army, with report and recommendations, as called for by his indorsement of October 15, 1888, hereon.

J. C. KELTON,  
*Assistant Adjutant-General.*

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*Washington, February 11, 1889.*

Respectfully returned to the Secretary of War, in connection with my indorsement of the 8th instant, wherein I have concurred in the recommendation of the commanding generals of the Department of the Platte and Division of the Missouri.

As it will require considerable time to copy "all correspondence and reports" contemplated by this resolution, I inclose copies as follows:

- (1) Report of the commanding general Department of the Platte.
- (2) Tracing covering the land owned by Mr. H. T. Clarke and which it is deemed necessary to purchase as part of the 900 acres.
- (3) Abstract of offers received for the sale of land in the State of Iowa—all of the land covered thereby being reported by the commanding general Department of the Platte as not suitable for site purposes—with the suggestion that if they be transmitted to the Senate in connection with the opinion of the Secretary of War "concerning any recommendations made by the generals commanding the Department of the Platte, the Division of the Missouri, and the general commanding the Army," the information embraced may suffice for immediate use, and a delay, which will result if copies of all the correspondence and reports be attempted, will be avoided.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

*Report of the examination of sites offered in the State of Nebraska for the new Fort Omaha, in accordance with letter of instructions from the headquarters of the Army, dated October 18, 1888, and indorsement on same, dated headquarters Division of the Missouri, October 22, 1888.*

Thomas Swift. Proposal No. 1. Examined November 23, 1888. Rolling, broken, and elevated ground. Supply of water limited to small springs and wells. Location not suitable for a military post.

Jurgen Claussen. Proposal No. 2. Examined November 21, 1888. Land partly elevated, draining into another part in a hollow. Narrow and contracted. Water supply from springs and wells, limited. This tract is the northeast quarter of the section of bid No. 10, in which the other three-quarter sections are included. Unsuitable for a military post.

H. Martin. Proposal No. 3. Examined November 21, 1888. This land is partly on a slope, the other part, one half, broken land or marshy. None suitable for a post, not being dry, elevated or with natural drainage, and with a limited supply of water from springs. Location not suitable for a post.



James E. Boyd. Proposal No. 4. Examined November 23, 1888. Part broken, part level bench, and part bottom land liable to be wet and bordering on the Papillion Creek, whose waters are unfit for drinking purposes. Supply of water limited to springs and wells. Location not suitable for a military post.

P. B. Knight. Proposal No. 5. Examined November 20, 1883. Elevated and rolling land. Water supply from springs, very limited. Location near F. E. and M. V. R. R. Not suitable for a military post.

Barton and Nichols. Proposal No. 6. Examined November 26, 1888. At Gilmore. Partly elevated and rolling, the remainder bottom lands bordering on the Papillion Creek. Water supply limited to a spring. Location not suitable for a military post.

Martin House and Jacob Elton, and Julia E. and Joseph Vandercook. Proposal No. 7. Examined November 19, 1888. Principally bottom land; liable to overflow; a good spring on this land. The upland broken and covered with scrub timber. Land about 4 miles from any railroad. Utterly unsuitable for a military post.

J. L. Brown. Proposal No. 8. Examined November 26, 1888. One mile east of Papillion. Elevated and rolling land; part bottom lands on the Papillion Creek. Water supply limited to a spring and well. Not suitable for a military post.

Lucian Woodworth. Proposal No. 9. Examined November 23, 1888. The greater portion of this land is in the Papillion Creek bottom. Supply of water limited to wells. Location not suitable for a military post.

John H. Cryer. Proposal No. 10. Examined November 21, 1888. High and rolling ground; well drained. Water supply from a small stream fed by springs. Location about 2 miles from Union Pacific Railroad. Unsuitable, owing to an insufficient supply of water and general topographical features.

Charles Abernathy, agent for Mrs. Gans. Proposal No. 11. Examined November 23, 1888. Rolling; broken and elevated ground. Supply of water limited to springs and wells. Location not suitable for a military post. Neither the agent or owner was present when this property was examined; an employé of Mrs. Gans pointed out the boundaries.

Plattsmouth Land Improvement Company, by O. H. Ballou, president. Proposal No. 12. Examined November 28, 1888. Near Orepolis. Two hundred acres of this tract is badly broken with hills, and the remainder, 130 acres, is composed of bottom lands. Supply of water from springs. Location, which is beyond the 10 miles required by law, is unsuitable in any way for a military post.

(See letter of Mr. Ballou hereto appended. The additional land offered is not suitable for the purpose and is beyond the limit fixed in the act.)

W. W. Lowe. Proposal No. 13. Examined November 26, 1888. One and one-half miles west of Papillion; rolling land, elevated. Water supply limited to springs. Branch of the Papillion Creek passes through this tract. Location unsuitable for site of a military post.

Hans Beckman. Proposal No. 14. Examined November 19, 1888. Land high and rolling; well drained; some bottom land. Supply of water from wells and some small springs. Location south of Fort Calhoun. Railroad passes through center of tract. Not suitable for a military post.

Portland Land and Town Lot Company, by John L. McCague, president. Proposals Nos. 16, 29, and 31, examined November 23, 1888. A portion of this land is elevated, another, about one-half, low and flat. The supply of water is limited to wells or springs of sufficient capacity. Location of this land not suitable for a military post.

George Bates. Proposals Nos. 17 and 18. Examined November 25, 1888. Very broken or rolling land, portions of which are separated by a wide strip of land of a marshy character. Supply of water from springs in the north and northeast corners, limited. Land borders on Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Railroad. Unsuitable for a military post.

W. W. Lowe. Proposal No. 19. Examined November 26, 1888. Near Papillion. Elevated and rolling, water supply from a small creek formed by springs, and from wells. One fourth of land in bottom on Papillion Creek. Location not suitable for a military post.

Henry Kelsey and Christian Kuelber. Proposal No. 20. Examined November 23, 1888. Rolling and broken and some level land. Supply of water limited to wells. Location not suitable for a military post.

Ramsey, Saling and Gallagher. Proposal No. 21. Examined November 26, 1888. Two miles east and south of Papillion. Land broken and rolling, only 90 acres being level. Water supply limited to a small spring and wells. Location not suitable for a military post.

S. L. Coffman. Proposal No. 22. Examined November 19, 1888. Near Fort Calhoun. Elevated, dry, and natural drainage. Supply of water from two small creeks whose sources are springs on the land; very limited. Thirty acres of this land is bottom land. Railroad runs through land. Location not suitable for a military post.

J. Kelley McCombs. Proposal No. 23. Examined November 20, 1888. Flat and

low piece of land between two ridges. Papillion Creek flows through it. Certain to be marshy in rainy season. Drainage into the creek. Water from wells and limited. That from the Papillion Creek not suitable. Unsuitable for a military post.

Fred. Fricke. Proposal No. 24. Examined November 26, 1888. One and one-half miles north of Papillion. Elevated and rolling. Supply of water, a small spring on this tract; no wells. Location not suitable for a military post.

Joseph A. Connor. Proposal No. 25. Examined November 21, 1888. This land is on a ridge or bench sloping both ways; high and dry. Water supply limited. Not suitable for a military post.

W. A. Paxton. Proposal No. 26. Examined December 6, 1888. Tract consists of 320 acres of high and slightly rolling land. A branch of Papillion Creek bordering it on the west and a branch of the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Railroad running across the western edge of the land. Owner offers quarter section next south of western quarter section of this tract at same price. Will offer more if certain litigation now being carried on is successful. Water obtained from two wells. One well about 40 feet deep, situated in a hollow about midway on the southern line of the tract. Drainage excellent. From a large portion of this tract a large portion of the country is overlooked. Owner wishes to make an additional proffer for this property which will depend on suits now pending. Not suitable for the site of a military post.

Potter and Cobb. Proposal No. 27. Examined November 26, 1888. Two miles east of Papillion. High, elevated land or bench with a level plateau of about 320 acres with a gentle slope into the valley of the Papillion, which at this point is narrow. The southeast portion of the 320 acres has a ravine which empties into low ground on the east. The water of the Papillion is unsuitable for drinking. The water supply would be from two springs with, apparently, an abundant supply of good, pure water. The location is not suitable for a post, as only that part of the land embraced in the proposal is fairly adapted to the purpose. The features of the surrounding country would not permit of any extension. Not recommended.

Henry Zucher. Proposal No. 28. Examined November 28, 1888. Near Bellevue. Is an extension of the land of bid No. 15 on map, being composed of high, rolling, and bottom land and not suitable for a military post.

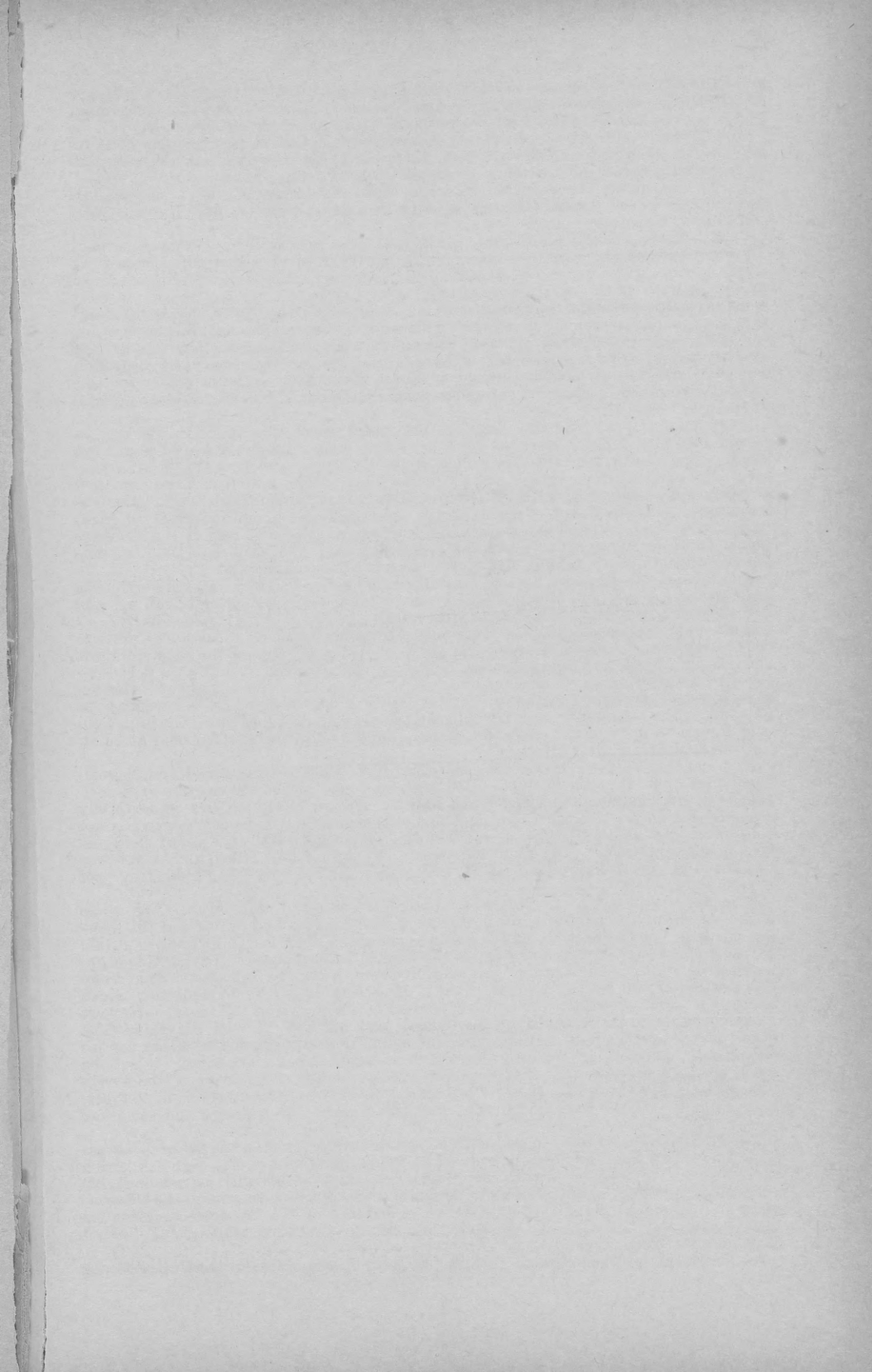
L. Crouse. Proposal No. 30. Examined November 19, 1888. Near Fort Calhoun. Part of the land, 120 acres, elevated and dry with natural drainage, the remainder low land, no drainage, and about 75 feet below the elevated land from which it is separated by a slough, into which some springs are said to flow. No supply of water except from this or wells, and the low land is liable to overflow and in wet weather to be under water. The low land is evidently the old bed of the river. The high land was formerly a part of the site of old Fort Calhoun. Railroad station near at hand. Not suitable for a military post.

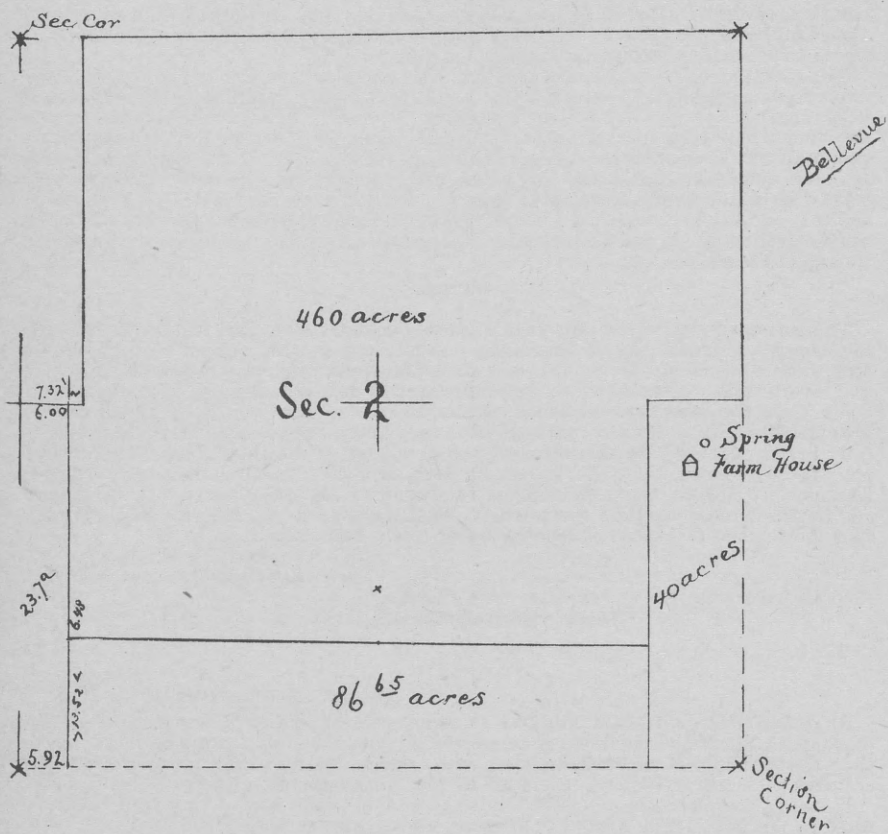
Proposal No. 15, at Bellevue. Made by Mr. H. T. Clarke. Examined first November 28, 1888, and frequently since. Contains land well suited for the site of a military post, viz., section 2 and the north half of section 11 which lies immediately south of section 2. The other land included in this plat, and variously marked, is not considered desirable for the purpose. The amount authorized by the act of Congress is sufficient to purchase only about 460 acres. All the land described above, viz, section 2 and the north half of section 11, is necessary for the purpose of a military post at this place.

That portion of section 2 from which I would recommend the purchase be made does not contain 640 acres, for the reason that a highway is laid out east of the western boundary of the section, and I would recommend that this highway, or public road, be made the western boundary of the land to be purchased. Taking this highway as the western boundary of the section there would be but about 580 acres in this portion of the tract. The north half of section 11, lying immediately south of section 2, contains about 320 acres, a portion of which, about 150 acres, northwest quarter of section 11, is owned by Mr. Clarke and marked "C" on the plat. The other portion of this half section, lying immediately east, is owned by other parties at present. The total of the desirable tract amounts to about 900 acres. It will be seen by reference to the plat that Papillion Creek runs across a portion of the northwest quarter of section 11. It is very necessary to have control of the land connecting section 2 with the Papillion Creek, into which creek all drainage and sewerage must empty.

The land which can be purchased with the amount mentioned in the act of Congress should be taken from the north portion of section 2 lying east of the highway which runs through the section within its western boundary. This will leave about 120 acres of this section, about 80 acres of which Mr. Clarke offers to rent to the Government at the nominal annual rent of \$1. The balance of the 120 acres contains his farm house and barns. See communication hereto appended marked "A," dated December 22, 1888.

Mr. Clarke also, in communication dated January 7, 1889, offers to the United States





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 A. G. O., War Dept.  
 Mil. Res. Div.  
 C. H. Durand, del.

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all the remaining part of section 2 above described, and that part of the northwest quarter of section 11, which he owns, about 270 acres, at the rate of \$225 per acre, stating as a limit of time June 1, 1891, hereto appended marked "B." I think the rest of the north half of section 11, about 170 acres, can be secured on the same terms.

I wish to state here that all the land hereinbefore described by me, viz, that portion of section 2 lying east of the public road mentioned, containing about 580 acres, and the north half of section 11, lying immediately south of section 2, containing 320 acres, a total of about 900 acres, is absolutely necessary for the location of the new Fort Omaha. Unless the Government owns all the land mentioned the site for the new post will be incomplete, and much future embarrassment must ensue. On this ground can be established a first-class rifle range, which can be made entirely safe as regards the surrounding neighborhood. I can not, therefore, too strongly urge that steps be taken to purchase the additional ground without delay.

The ground mentioned herein has a gradual slope, commencing with the north line and extending toward the south to the bluff overhanging Papillion Creek, whence it drops sharply down on the bottom bordering the creek. In my examinations for the site of this new post I have not only carefully observed the ground included in each proposal, but have observed that in the neighborhoods and on the way to and from the city, and I have not found any other place, either included in the proposals or otherwise, which would be suitable as a site for this new post. In fact, this site is the only one I have found, and I consider it entirely suitable for the purpose, provided all the ground mentioned be secured. The distance from the post-office in the city of Omaha is about 10 miles.

#### WATER.

The water supply for the new post must be obtained from that furnished from the Missouri River to the city of Omaha, by an extension of the pipes of this water system for about 5 miles. Water taken from the Missouri River opposite to this ground, and over 2 miles distant, would be impregnated with the sewage from the city of Omaha and the stockyards at South Omaha, the sewer of which latter place empties into the Missouri a few miles above Bellevue. In this connection I would respectfully invite attention to the letter of the president of the City Water Works Company to Mr. Clarke, dated December 12, 1888, and Mr. Clarke's letter to me, dated December 13, 1888, in regard to this matter, herewith inclosed marked "C." I would add in this connection that the town of South Omaha is growing rapidly and will soon shorten the distance between its water mains and this site.

JOHN R. BROOKE,

*Brigadier-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE,  
Omaha, Nebr., January 10, 1889.

OMAHA, NEBR., December 22, 1888.

DEAR SIR: Herewith you will find a (crude) plat of section 2, township 13, north of range 13, showing the lines as suggested by you. Should more land be required than the 460 acres at time of purchase, will agree to lease to the United States Government the south 86.65 acres, as shown by plat, at an annual rental of \$100 per year.

If after a complete survey of the lands you should prefer any of the other land offered by me not included in the 460-acre tract, you are authorized to make such change as you deem desirable.

Will have a more elaborate map, showing the surroundings of the land, made, if you so desire.

Yours, to command,

H. T. CLARKE.

General JOHN R. BROOKE,  
*Commanding General, Department of Platte, Omaha.*

OMAHA, NEBR., January 7, 1889.

DEAR SIR: Providing the United States Government purchase part of the land offered by me in section 2, township 13, range 13, Sarpy County, I will agree to make a deed to the United States for use as barracks the 87 acres on the south part of said section 2 and the southeast 40 acres of said section 2, and all that I own of the northwest quarter of section 11, T. 13, R. 13, about 158 acres, any time before June 1, 1891, upon payment to me of \$225 per acre.

Yours, respectfully,

H. T. CLARKE.

General JOHN R. BROOKE,  
*Commanding General, Department of Platte, Omaha.*

OMAHA, December 13, 1888.

MY DEAR GENERAL: Herewith I hand you a proposition from the American Water Works Company through their president, Mr. Underwood, to furnish water for the Government at Bellevue, should they decide upon the location that I have offered them for the fort. I understand from Mr. Underwood that they are negotiating to put up some additional work south of their present line, and that they will probably shorten the distance some miles, and I also understand from him that they would be willing to put in the line themselves if the Government so desired on the same terms that they furnish the city, but he expressed himself that the Government was unable to make any contract longer than one year and so did not think it desirable to make the proposition to furnish water on the same terms as they did for the city, the water-works people putting in the pipes themselves.

I wish this to go with my proposition for land offered to the Government for fort purposes.

Yours, with kind regards.

H. T. CLARKE.

General JOHN R. BROOKE, Omaha, Nebr.

OMAHA, December 12, 1888.

DEAR SIR: If it is desired that this company furnish water for Bellevue, we should recommend that a pipe line, being so long, be laid the first 2 miles from South Omaha with 10-inch pipe, and the last 3 miles with 8-inch pipe. In case it was desired, we would lay this pipe at exactly cost, without any profit, and owing to the large quantities in which we get this pipe, and to our facilities for doing this work, it would probably be at a saving of at least \$8,000 to \$10,000 over what the same would cost elsewhere. The weights of pipes we should use would be 70 pounds to the foot for 10-inch and 48 pounds to the foot for 8-inch, and the pipe line so laid would be the property of the Government, or whoever procured the laying of the same. We would then set a meter at the expense of the consumer at the point where this pipe line joins our system and charge for water consumed the rates given the Union Pacific Railroad Company, which are the lowest given anywhere in Omaha.

This pipe line would probably cost from \$30,000 to \$32,000, but in no event anything above the actual cost of material and labor.

In case any part of this pipe line should become used as a part of the system of water-works at South Omaha, and hydrants should be ordered set thereon, we would take so much of it as should be covered by hydrants and re-imburse the proportionate amount paid therefor; with this understanding, however, that any such taking of pipe by us should commence from the north end.

We have assurances from which we think it altogether likely that a number of hydrants will be ordered, commencing with our present southerly pipe line in South Omaha, and which would be on the proposed route of this line to such an extent as to shorten this line about 1 mile.

In case it was desired, we would lay an 8-inch and 6-inch pipe respectively in place of 10-inch and 8-inch, the first cost of which would be from \$6,000 to \$7,000 less than the cost of the 10-inch and 8-inch; but in that event we should be unwilling to bind ourselves to take the pipe at any time in the future, although we might possibly be willing to do so when the time came.

Yours, etc.,

W. A. UNDERWOOD.

Mr. H. T. CLARKE, Omaha.

*Abstract of offers received for the sale of land in the State of Iowa for the site of Fort Omaha, Nebr.*

No. of offer.	Names of persons making offer.	Number of acres offered.	Price per acre.	Price for total number of acres.
1	Lucius Wells .....	1206		\$60,000.00
2	J. F. Evans .....	2200	\$200.00	40,000.00
3	W. F. Sapp, jr. ....	1342	150.00	51,300.00
4	D. W. Archer .....	2251	300.00	75,300.00
5	Northrup, Braslan and Goodwin Company. ....	1334.92		64,000.00
6	Maria Myuster, by David Haines, attorney .....	3320	250.00	80,000.00
7	Stewart and Haas .....	3360	75.00	27,000.00
8	Lucius Wells .....	1329		60,000.00
9	Officer and Pusey, in behalf of owners .....	565		66,000.00

NOTE.—Report by General Brooke on sites offered:

<sup>1</sup> Not suitable for a military post.

<sup>2</sup> Unsuitable as a site for a military post.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,  
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*Washington, October 18, 1888.*

SIR: I am directed by the major-general commanding the Army to refer herewith "Abstract of bids received for the sale of land for the site of Fort Omaha, Nebr., under the act of Congress approved July 23, 1888, opened at 2.30 p. m., September 17, 1888, by the acting Secretary of War," with accompanying documents, for report and recommendation by yourself and the commanding general, Department of the Platte, upon all the sites offered that are within the 10 miles limit as fixed by law.

Please return all papers with your reply.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. KELTON,  
*Assistant Adjutant General.*

*The Commanding General, Division of the Missouri, Chicago, Ill.*

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI,  
*Chicago, January 29, 1889.*

Respectfully returned to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

After a careful examination of the matter as represented herein, I concur fully in the recommendation of the commanding general Department of the Platte.

The papers in regard to sites offered in the State of Iowa are herewith inclosed (5513 Div. Mo., 1888).

GEORGE CROOK,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,  
*Washington, D. C., February 8, 1889.*

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War.

I fully concur in the recommendations of the commanding generals, Department of the Platte and Division of the Missouri, viz, that the entire tract of land described, embracing about 900 acres, be purchased for the new post near Omaha.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,  
*Major-General, Commanding.*



